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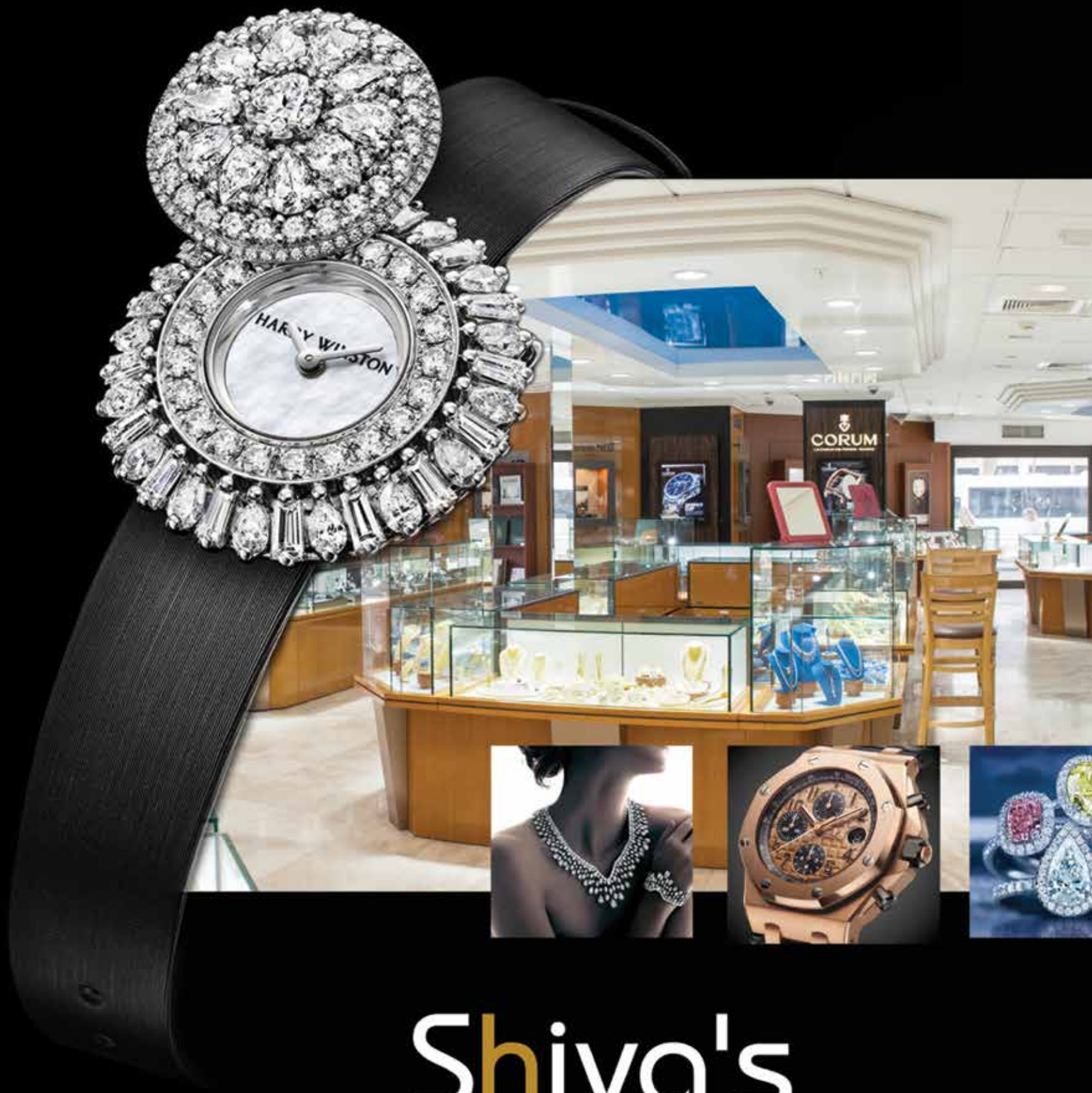


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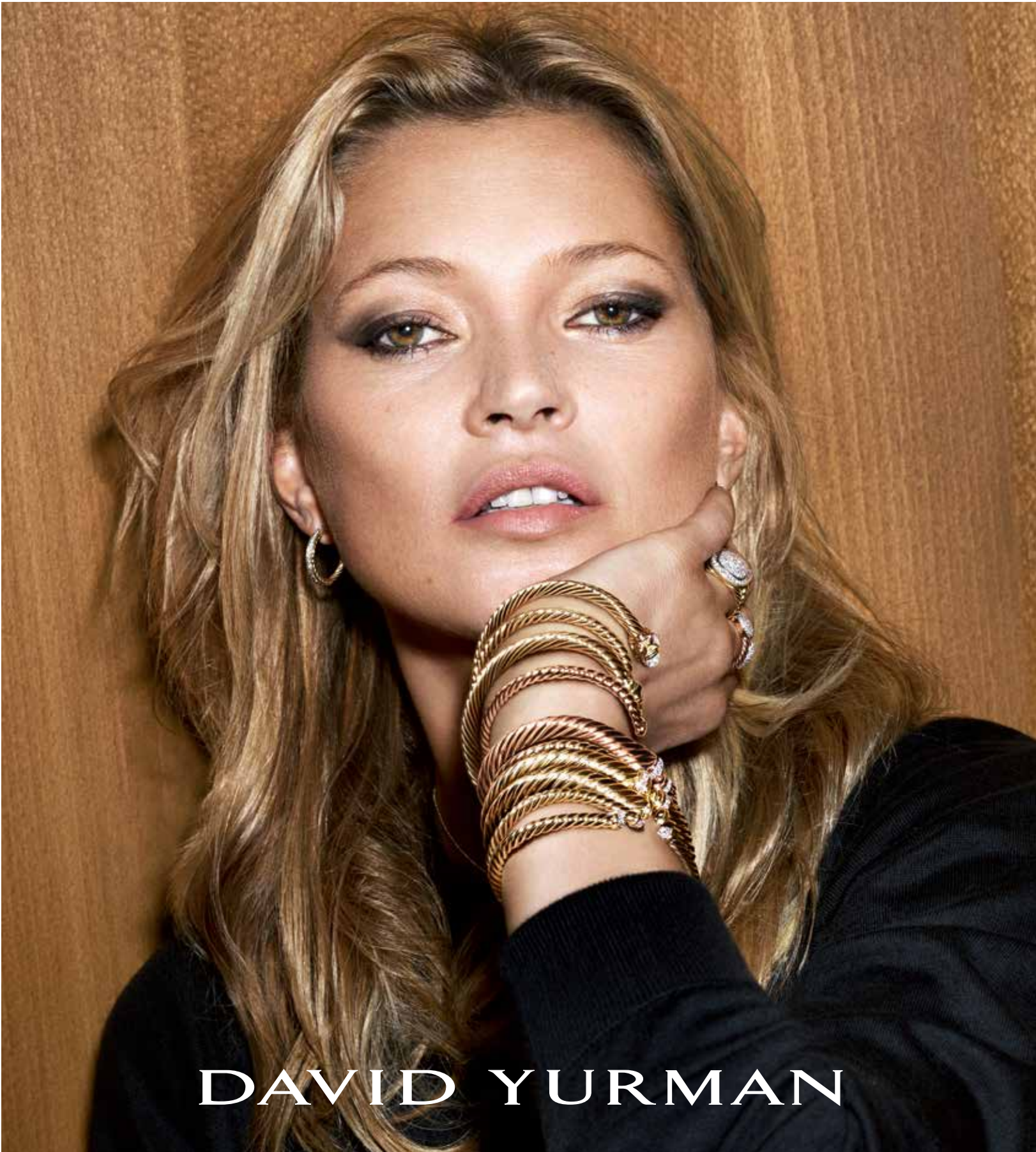
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A promise to our readers

Our crew is dedicated to going beyond beaches to bring our readers the sights, sounds, and tastes of Aruba. Each edition will contain fresh features and photography spotlighting the local personalities that make this island such a remarkable corner of the world.

Our writers will continue to peel back the cultural layers and introduce you to the talented artists, musicians, chefs, and everyday folk who make Aruba “One Happy Island” and a place you will want to return to again and again.

The *Island Temptations* Crew

Our Front COVER

Cover girl Michelle Wever is photographed at Wariruri by Steve Keith. Dress available at T.H. Palm & Company. Pendant necklaces, charm bracelet, diamond ring, and earrings by Lagos, and diamond cuff and ring by Michael Aram—all pieces available exclusively at Little Switzerland.

Hair and makeup by Andy Mendez for Tierra del Sol Spa, Salon & Fitness Center. Special thanks to Barbara Nieuwmeier and daughter Zoey for coordinating our gorgeous equestrian co-model, Canelo.



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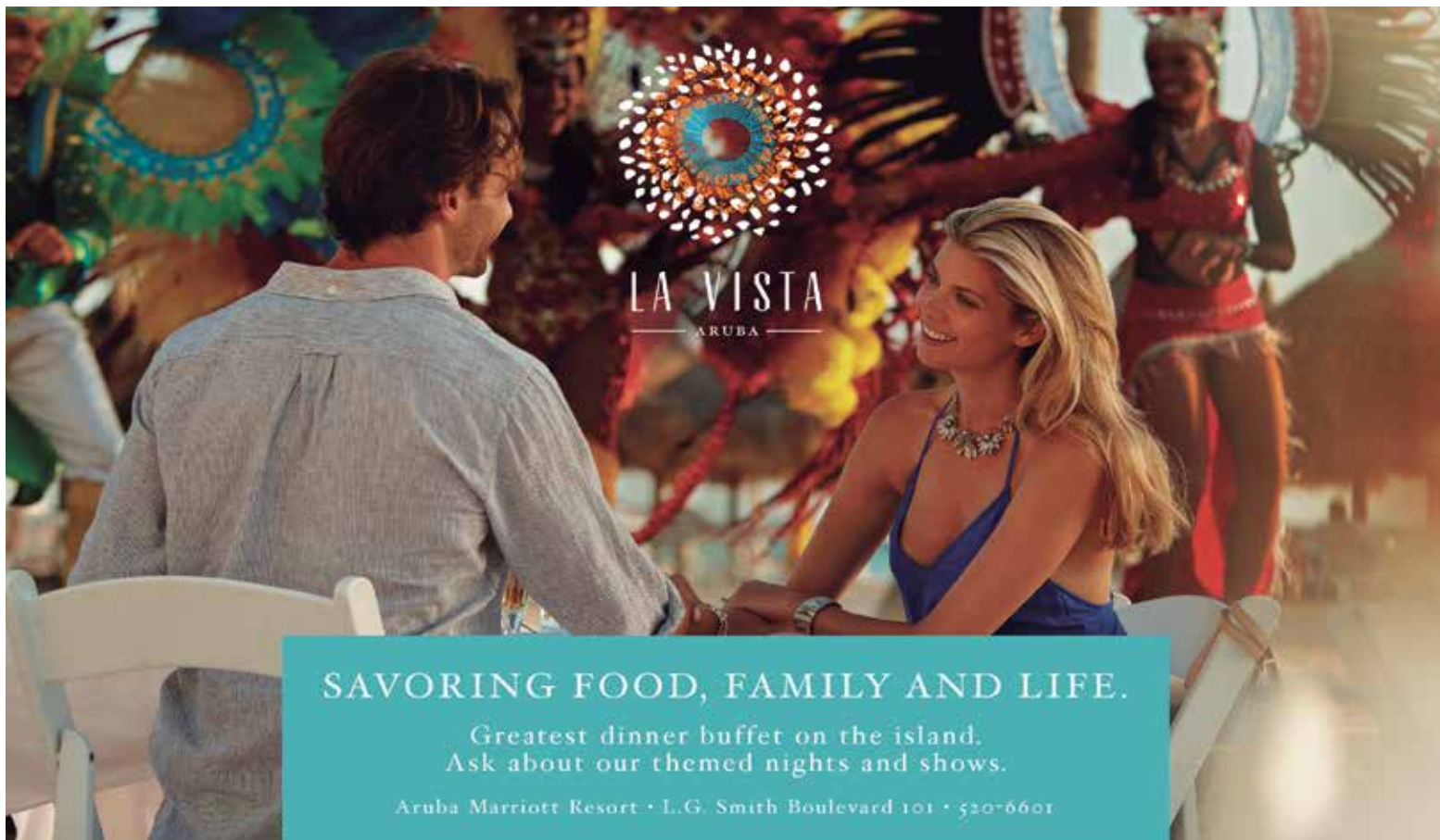
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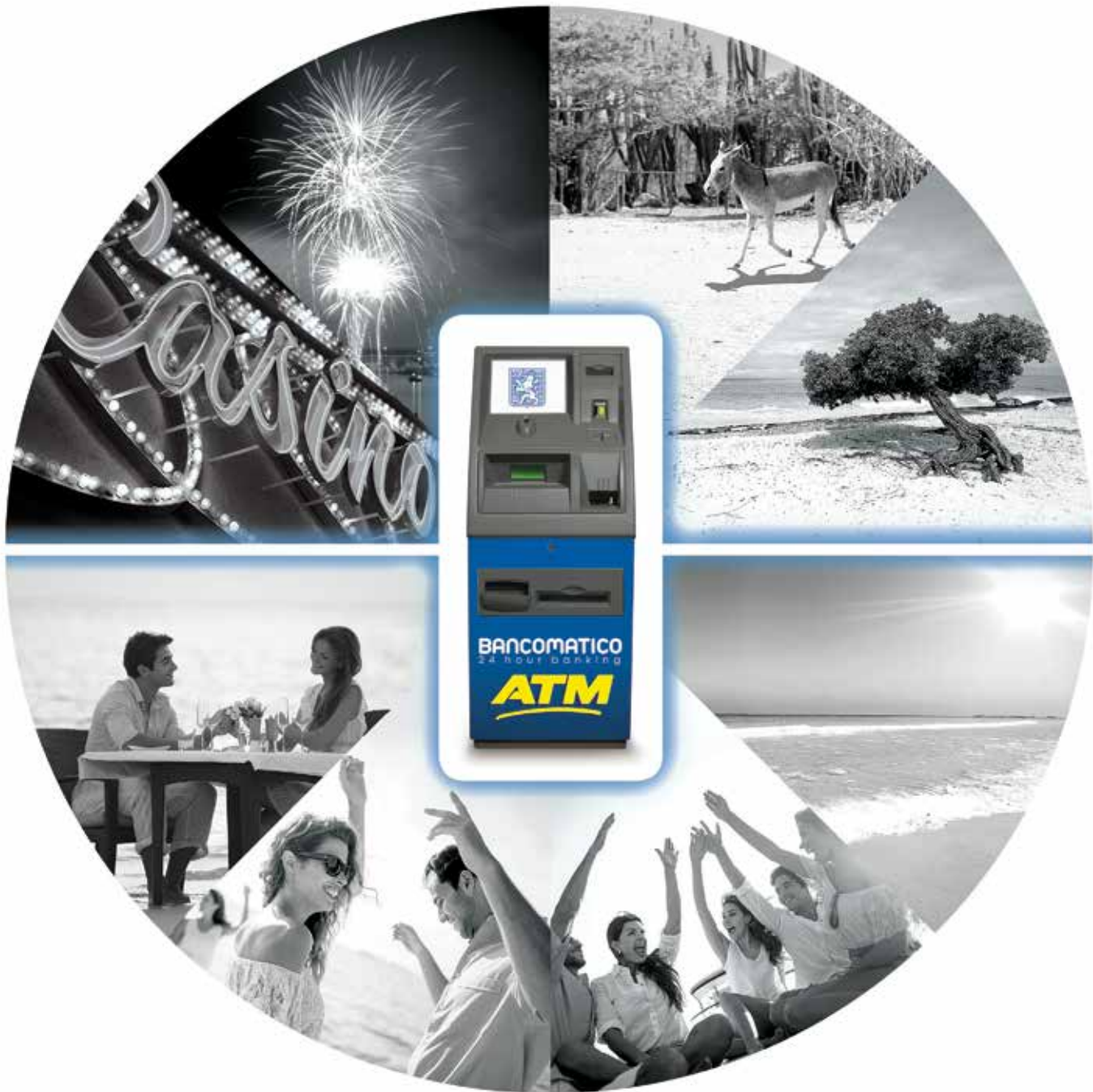


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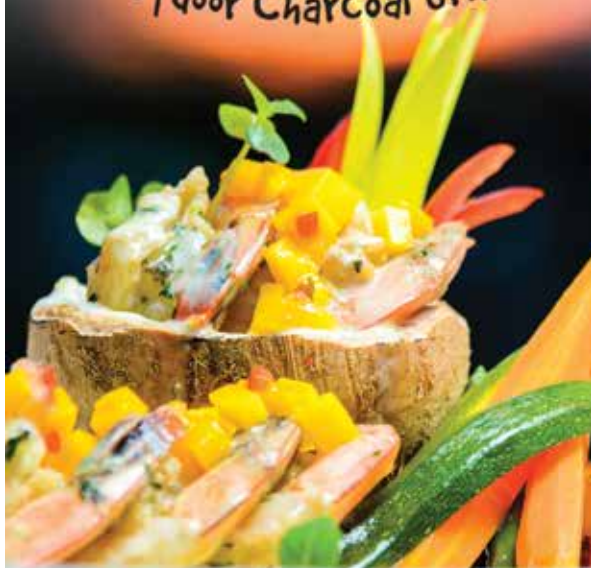
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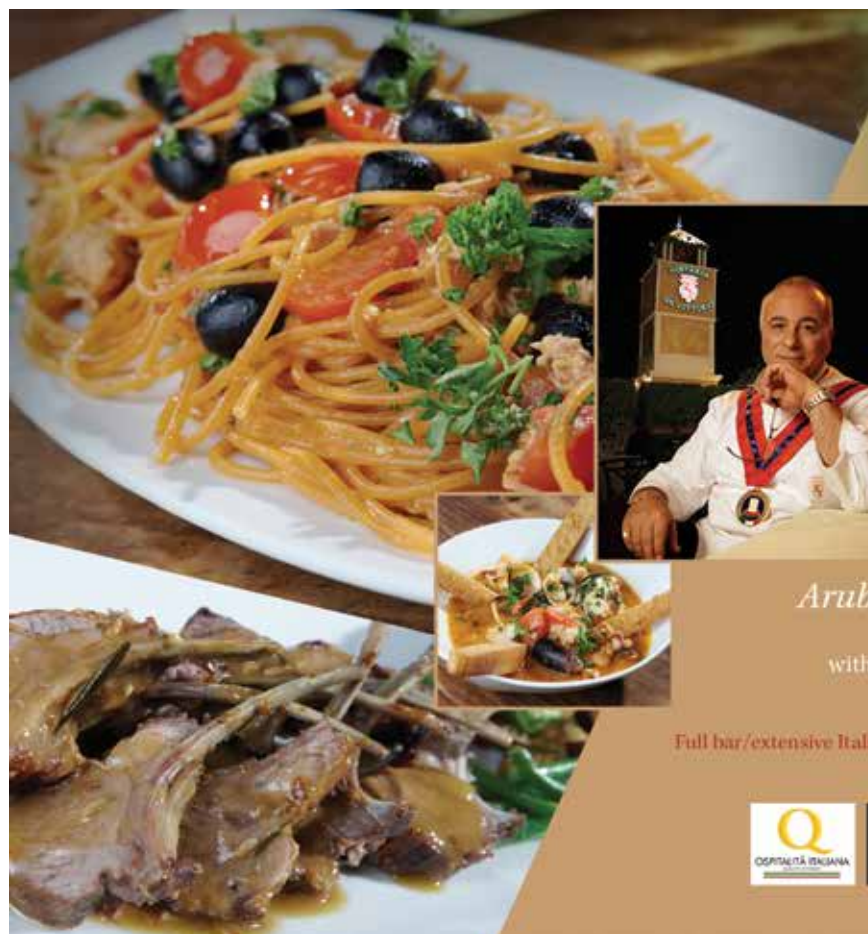
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VENUES



Destination Weddings Bloom on Aruba

Text by Tina Causey-Bislick
Photography by Steve Keith

We tasked several of our resorts and wedding professionals to create a dream destination wedding setup, and all we can say is it's the stuff fairy tales are made of! Just like every wedding couple is unique, so are the setups orchestrated by our island wedding professionals. From glamorous to rustic, vintage to beach chic—the dreamy setups on the following pages have us all ready to say “I do” to a destination wedding in Aruba. ¶

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Location

Divi Phoenix Resort's Pure Ocean Lounge & Restaurant

Vendors

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Koolman's Flower Shop

The Patisserie

Aruba Weddings For You







Hyatt Regency Aruba Resort Spa & Casino

*A beach-chic ceremony and barefoot reception under
an authentic palapa*

Location

Ceremony: Hyatt's beachfront on Palm Beach

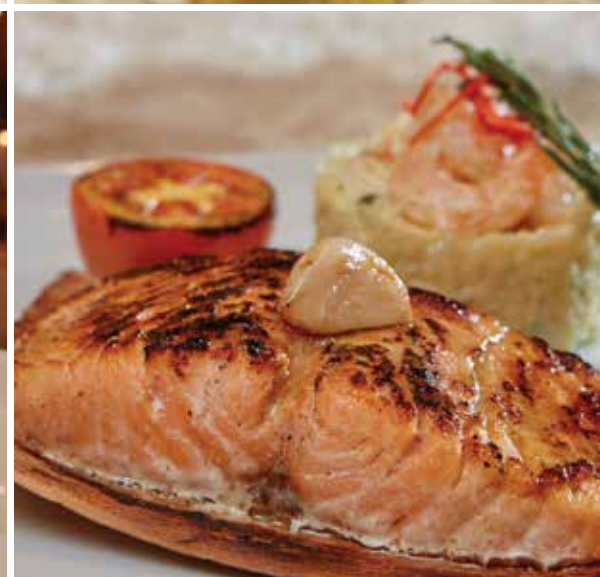
Reception: Hyatt's Beach Palapa event venue

Vendors

Koolman's Flower Shop

House of Mosaic







*A dream wedding
starts with a
dream rehearsal dinner*

The island of Aruba is blessed with a great number of couples who choose to celebrate the single most important day of their lives here. For more than three decades El Gaucho Argentine Grill has taken part in making weddings unforgettable, for many couples, their family members and their friends, hosting the traditional pre-wedding ceremony rehearsal dinner, on the night before the big-day.

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Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino

A vintage garden ceremony at sunset and a barefoot beach reception under the light of the moon

Location

Ceremony: Marriott's exclusive H2Oasis pool deck

Reception: Marriott's beachfront on Palm Beach

Vendors

LETZ Aruba

Shar's Flowers





Reception images provided by
Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino



Hilton Aruba Caribbean Resort & Casino

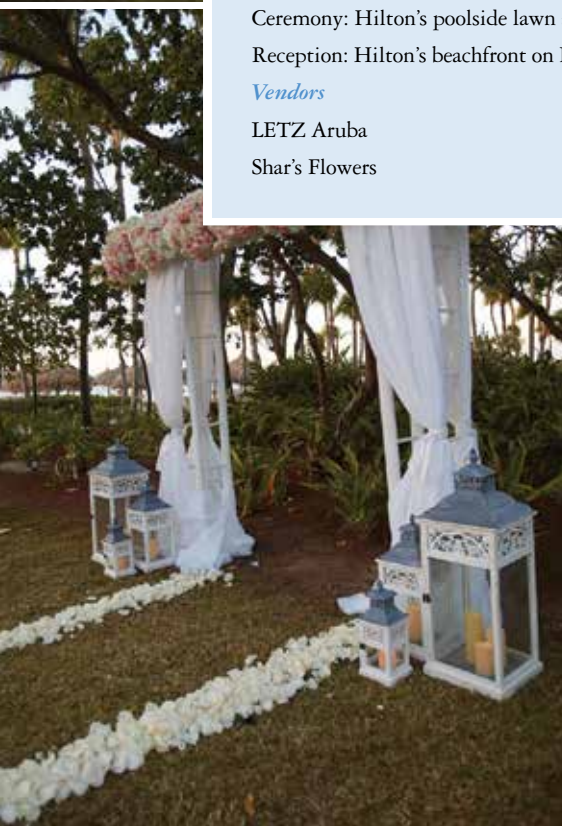
Luxury on the lawn of this grassy beach- and poolside courtyard is anchored by lush, tropical landscaping, with an elegant dinner and lounge setup on the beach

Location

Ceremony: Hilton's poolside lawn and garden
Reception: Hilton's beachfront on Palm Beach

Vendors

LETZ Aruba
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RIU Palace

Bold glamor comes to this contemporary garden setting for the ceremony, with a private gazebo dinner for two featured for the reception

Location

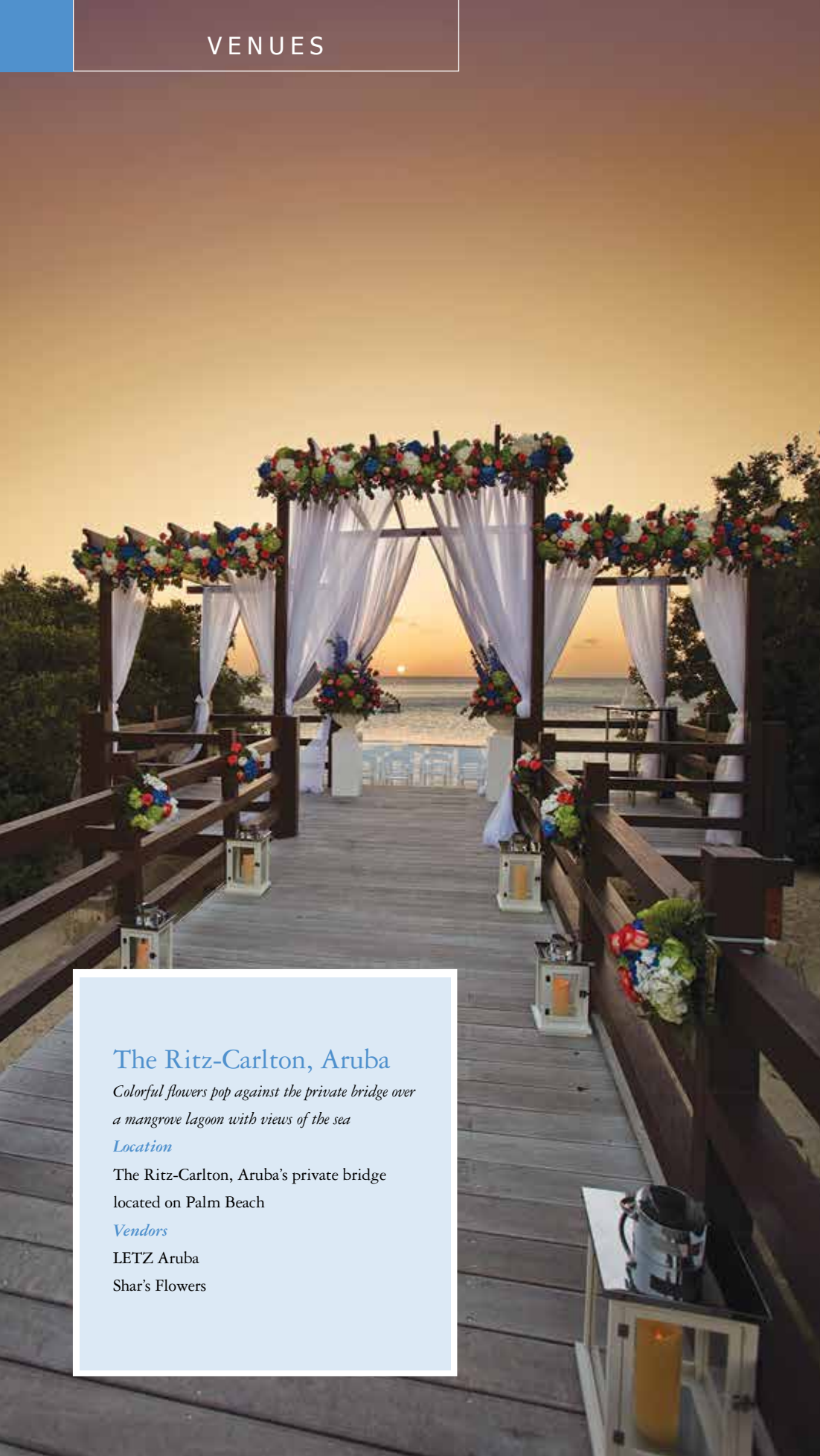
The grassy garden courtyard at the RIU Palace, with an intimate beachfront reception on Palm Beach

Vendors

LETZ Aruba
Elsa's Flower Shop
The Patisserie







The Ritz-Carlton, Aruba

Colorful flowers pop against the private bridge over a mangrove lagoon with views of the sea

Location

The Ritz-Carlton, Aruba's private bridge located on Palm Beach

Vendors

LETZ Aruba

Shar's Flowers





Reception images provided by
The Ritz-Carlton, Aruba

The *Island Bride*

Photography by Steve Keith
Art direction by Tina Causey-Bislick
Shoot coordination by Rona Coster

No need to worry about packing your wedding dress—Aruba's retailers offer a wide variety of classic, couture, cocktail-chic, and beachy-bohemian styles. Many of the dresses featured here are not from traditional bridal boutiques, as the easy-breezy styles many destination brides prefer can also play a role in every woman's warm-weather wardrobe.

The island's landscapes—from serene beaches, untamed countryside, casually sophisticated country clubs, and historic downtown architecture—offer brides a potpourri of dreamy backdrops for ceremonies, receptions, and bridal photography.

*Dress available at T.H. Palm & Company
Silk floral crown available at Miss 21 Accessories
Lagos designer jewelry available
at Little Switzerland
Hair and makeup by Andy Mendez for
Tierra del Sol Spa, Salon & Fitness Center
Location: Wariruri Beach*





*Dress available
at T.H. Palm & Company
Designer jewelry by Ippolita available
at Little Switzerland
Hair & makeup by Zoia Spa at the
Hyatt Regency Aruba
Location: Beachfront at the Hyatt
Regency Aruba Resort*



*Dress available at Creation Aimee
Hair accessory from Miss 21 Accessories
Avance diamond jewelry available at
Little Switzerland
Hair and makeup by Andy Mendez for
Tierra del Sol Spa,
Salon & Fitness Center
Location: Tierra del Sol Country Club*



*Couture dress by Creation Aimee
Hair crown from Miss 21 Accessories
Swarovski jewelry available
at Little Switzerland
Hair and makeup by Andy Mendez for Tierra
del Sol Spa, Salon & Fitness Center
Location: Civil Hall, downtown*



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*Dress available at Loft
Hair accessory from Miss 21 Accessories
Marco Bicego Italian designer jewelry available
at Little Switzerland
Hair and makeup by Andy Mendez
for Tierra del Sol Spa, Salon & Fitness Center
Location: The wedding bridge
at The Ritz-Carlton, Aruba*



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IN THE PARK

Text by Tina Causey-Bislick
Photography by Steve Keith





Aruba is blessed with some of the most amazing beaches in the world, which is why the island is renowned for destination weddings. But Aruba's diverse geography offers unique alternative venues ripe with local culture and authenticity. One of my favorite setups comes courtesy of House of Mosaic, with Fernando Mansur at the helm in collaboration with event planner Angelo Tromp. His "Pirate's Bounty Breakfast," set amongst the pristine wilderness of Arikok National Park, is an award-winning setup recognized by *Smart Meetings* magazine, a leading publication for professionals in the meetings, events, travel, and hospitality industry.

Fernando forgoes formulaic, always striving to bring the unexpected to his events. The event master has a way of creating layer upon layer of eclectic elegance, and his setup in Arikok National Park meshes history and antiquity with casual al fresco chic. The end result is a truly original presentation that would make any wedding-related event memorable and distinctive.

"My inspiration behind this theme was the Spanish explorer, Alonso de Ojeda," explains Fernando. In 1499, de Ojeda discovered Aruba, laying claim to the island for Spain's Queen Isabella. "The décor I use to embellish the setup represents the bounty Alonso de Ojeda might have brought to



the island from his ship," he shares.

Fernando originally created this look, paired with a traditional island breakfast for the Aruba Convention Bureau. But this versatile look can complement a variety of venues and cuisines. For more information, contact House of Mosaic. 📞

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Website: <http://mosaicaruba.weebly.com>

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Signature Wedding Craft Cocktails

Photography by Steve Keith



Handcrafted cocktails are lively additions to any event, and these liquid, artisanal pleasures add a unique component to island weddings. The island's craft cocktail scene is growing, led by Hollywood Smokehouse, whose "Front Porch" craft cocktails were featured last summer in *USA Today*. Further proving the restaurant's cocktail prowess, head bartender Danny van der Linden won the Iron Bartending title this past October for his Aruba Aloe cocktail.

Hollywood Smokehouse's craft cocktails are also featured at off-premise events, and Danny, along with co-bartender Danvid Webb, collaborated with the restaurant's creative director and co-owner, Tina Bislick, to create three signature beach cocktails that are perfect for a destination wedding. "The great thing about craft cocktails is that there is no 'standard'...our only standard is to use fresh fruits, herbs, and house-made mixers whenever possible...for weddings we can craft a cocktail to reflect personal taste, a sense of place, and authenticity," shares the owner. 🍹

Lemonade Serenade

- 1 oz. fresh squeezed lemon juice
- 1 oz. simple syrup
- 2 slices cucumber
- 2 oz. Tito's Vodka
- Ginger soda (or ginger beer)
- Fresh basil for garnish

In a mixing glass, add all ingredients (except ginger soda and basil) and muddle. Add crushed ice and shake. Pour into a rocks glass or mason jar and top off with ginger soda or ginger beer. Garnish with fresh basil.



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1.5 oz. St-Germain elderflower liqueur
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 .25 oz. Tito's Vodka
 .5 oz. agave
 .5 oz. fresh squeezed lemon juice
 Fresh berries (any combination of blackberries, blueberries, and strawberries)
 Prosecco
 Brandy-soaked blackberries for garnish

Combine all ingredients (except Prosecco and blackberries for garnish) in mixing glass and muddle. Strain into wine glass filled with ice and top with Prosecco and brandy-soaked blackberries.

Cocopom Punch

1 oz. pomegranate liqueur
 1 oz. amaretto liqueur
 .5 oz. Malibu Rum
 1 oz. pineapple juice
 1 oz. orange juice
 .25 oz. grenadine
 Dash of orange bitters
 Orange or lemon slice

Combine all ingredients (except grenadine) in a mixing glass, add ice, and shake. Pour into a tall glass, float a bit of grenadine on top, and garnish with a fresh orange or lemon slice.



Let Them

Text by Tina Causey-Bislick
Photography by Steve Keith

Eat Cake!

At the heart of every wedding reception is the cake. From antiquity to modern times, matrimony has been celebrated over cake. The Romans had a custom of breaking a cake made of wheat over the bride's head for prosperity and fertility, while in medieval times the British stacked biscuits, scones, and other confections in a tower, encouraging the bride and groom to kiss each other over the mound (for good luck) without toppling the pillar of sweets.

The tiered wedding cake we recognize today came into fashion when Prince Albert married Queen Victoria in 1840. The intricately decorated, 300-pound, artistic masterpiece was described as "consisting of the most exquisite compounds of all the rich things with which the most expensive cakes can be composed, mingled and mixed together into delightful harmony by the most elaborate science of the confectioner."

Today, just about anything goes in terms of flavor, design, color, and decoration. Aruba's bakers and pastry chefs are happy to accommodate each couple's personal taste and flair. Trends they see include fondant icing (the smooth, classic finish of fondant yields a simple elegance and provides a great canvas for artistic touches and embellishments, and it also holds up well for outdoor weddings); incorporating a different flavor for each layer to offer guests variety; and a dessert table anchored by a smaller wedding cake surrounded by a decadent menagerie of sweets for guests to enjoy. 🍰



Francine Bardouville
W Cakes Aruba

What started as a hobby is now a business for this baker whose talent is often called upon from resorts like the Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino. The three moist layers of cake here include lemon, red velvet, and a vanilla-strawberry swirl with layers of buttercream in between. Francine used individually layered pleats of fondant as the base of her design. To the naked eye, the flowers appear to be fresh, but Francine's artistic skill and knack for intricate detail reveal edible sugared flowers made of gum paste. Francine can be contacted directly at +297-593-1247.



Luimar Olive

Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino

As pastry chef for the Renaissance for more than three years, Luimar oversees all that is sweet, including custom wedding cakes. Luimar's creation for us bucks the traditional round shape for a modern, square shape inspired by gift boxes. Smoothly covered in fondant and enhanced with fondant ribbons and bows is a rich, brownie-based cake with walnuts and ganache, and instead of a traditional frosting between the layers, Chef Olive ups the decadent degree with a creamy cheesecake filling laced with fresh strawberries.



Chef Yiduo “Dora” Wang

The Ritz-Carlton, Aruba

Although Chef Dora happily bakes any flavor combination requested, the three standards of The Ritz-Carlton, Aruba are a deep, rich chocolate paired with chocolate fudge, traditional red velvet with the must-have cream cheese filling, and the new favorite of brides and grooms—pistachio with a creamy milk chocolate filling presented in eight quarter-inch layers that give an impressively light and silky texture on the palate. The cake is decorated in smooth fondant with royal-icing detail and aqua sugared blooms evocative of our Caribbean Sea.



Chef Geert van Mil

The Pâtissier

An on-trend style for 2016 is the deconstructed “naked cake.” The less-is-more, rustic style brings surprising drama to a reception. Pictured here is a classic vanilla with buttercream between the layers, decorated with fresh fruit and flowers. Chef Geert, who worked as Divi Resorts Aruba’s pastry chef for many years and now has his own cake and pastry business, has made this cake in a variety of flavors.



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The Bold and the Beautiful*Sbar Chattram of Sbar's Flowers*

A bouquet does not have to be a mammoth, cascading affair to make a statement. The intensity of this bouquet comes from deep primary colors and the eye-catching pattern of the spotted, magenta vanda orchids. Bright red roses, deep burgundy tulips, rich violet delphiniums, lavender statice, and the spiky, steel-blue eryngium (an herb also known as sea holly) round out the ensemble.



Bouquet

Virtuosity


Text by Tina Causey-Bislick
Photography by Steve Keith



Sorry, single ladies—these bouquets are just too beautiful for brides to toss away! Our local florists create hundreds of bouquets every year, both for local brides and those who have chosen Aruba for their dream destination wedding. According to local florist Shar Chatram, attention to detail and uniqueness paired with the bride's personal taste are paramount when creating a memorable bouquet.

Since Aruba is a desert island, growing bouquet-worthy flowers on a commercial scale is not practical. Flowers are shipped to the island mainly from South America (Colombia) and Holland. With the exception of a few flowers that bloom in certain seasons, just about any bloom can appear in a bouquet with enough lead time to order and ship it to the island.

The “it” flowers, informs Shar, seem to consistently be roses (no surprise there), orchids, and hydrangeas. Brides wanting that exotic island look lean more towards brightly colored flowers like birds of paradise, lilies, gerberas, delphiniums, and sunflowers.

Here, three of our island florists give us an intoxicating whiff of some of their work. 

Tone-on-Tone

Koolman's Flower Shop

Peach and nude colors as well as tone-on-tone palettes are on-trend for 2016. Here, peach, blush, and nude roses get a seaside feel with the addition of seashells.

Simple Elegance
Sbar Chatram
of Sbar's Flowers

White roses and hydrangeas
are topped off with
phalaenopsis orchids with a pop
of deep pink in the center for a
simple, sophisticated bouquet.



Sunset Harmony
Sbar Chatram
of Sbar's Flowers

Aruba's coral- and pink-hued
sunsets come to life in this bouquet
of roses, Asiatic lilies, and fragrant
eucalyptus.



Rustic Charm

Hestber Kipping of Hestber's Creations

Amazing floral architecture is exhibited in this bouquet that features petals of the cymbidium orchid constructed to create one large central flower. Asparagus virgatus provides the fine greenery, lisianthus offers soft pink blooms, dianthus "green trick" adds texture with spiky blooms, skimmia brings color definition, and pink pepper berries are the perfect rustic accessory.



The Caribbean Snow Queen

Hestber Kipping of Hestber's Creations

Plump, green-tinted, white mondial roses are surrounded by baby's breath, delicate but dramatic nerine blooms, asparagus plumosus (species of fern) coated in white snow spray, and white feathers to form this angelic bouquet.



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In addition to the ceremony and reception, many couples also include pre- and postnuptial events in their festivities. Aruba's local restaurants provide that homegrown charm and personable service that can make any event a memorable part of the destination wedding experience.

Here, a few of our favorite businesses that are seasoned in organizing and hosting receptions, welcome dinners, rehearsal dinners, bridesmaid luncheons, and more. 



Pinchos Grill & Bar

This stylish restaurant is fashioned on a pier over the Caribbean Sea and features a menu highlighted by grilled seafood and meats in contemporary presentations, as well as a well-thought-out wine list and cocktail menu. This past February, Pinchos enjoyed the honor of being named by *USA Today* as one of the Caribbean's most romantic seaside restaurants. It's no wonder Pinchos has hosted a variety of wedding celebrations, with local

owners Robby and Anabela seeing to every detail of the event. A favorite of wedding couples is the restaurant's decorations, which are locally sourced for a true Aruban ambiance.

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MooMba Beach Bar & Restaurant

This is the quintessential island beach bar, chosen by CNN as one of the best beach bars in the world. Both the restaurant and the bar are under giant palapas, providing an authentic Caribbean vibe for guests. A varied menu offers steak, chicken, seafood, and pasta dishes. Special menus can be customized for wedding events. Get married just steps away from the restaurant by the sea, and then enjoy a festive, toes-in-the-sand, torchlit cocktail hour, followed by dinner under the palapa

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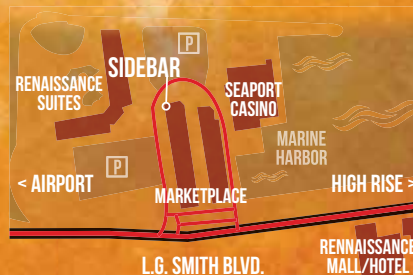
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Hollywood Smokehouse

The island's only authentic smokehouse offers guests an affordable, casual option for wedding-related events. Hollywood Smokehouse offers traditional barbecue, like beef brisket, pulled pork, and ribs, but also makes a claim to culinary fame with its award-winning tacos, Korean lettuce wraps, and healthy salads. Hollywood's "family style" option is

popular for wedding groups. Featured in *USA Today* newspaper, Hollywood's craft cocktails are made with house-infused liquors and fresh herbs and fruits.

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Drunk on puppy love at Yappy Hour

Who let the dogs out? Woof, woof, woof, woof, woof! In January, island pooches enjoyed their first-ever Yappy Hour, accompanied by their owners. Hosted by Eline and Ron Hubjers of Barney's Restaurant, the ARF-Aruba (Animal Relief Foundation) fundraiser was organized by Cheryl Talcof and Kathy Andreottola.

The foundation places some 200 dogs each year with Canadian and American animal-loving families. The well-attended event raised \$5,050, which will be spent on the sterilization of stray dogs, veterinary care (vaccinations, preventive medicine, and treatment of any illnesses), food, boarding, health certificates, and transportation to their forever homes abroad.

Said organizer Cheryl Talcof, "Special thanks goes to Eline and Ron Hubjers of Barney's Restaurant for helping to organize this event and donating their restaurant, profits, and their time selling raffle tickets and working during the event...without them, this event would not have happened."

An impressive list of local and tourist volunteers and local businesses donated time, products, services, and

gift certificates. "Thank you to those who attended and those whose generosity made it a success. This is truly a community that has come together for a great cause, and I am proud to be part of this community," shares Talcof.


ARF-Aruba wishes to thank the following individuals and businesses:

VOLUNTEERS:

Kathy Andreottola, Leslie of Scott's Brats, Karen Enz, Charlene Richardson Cheryl Schneider, Ann Angela, Miguel Garcia, Cathy Laface, Eline Hubjers, Elise Davilli, Cheryl Talcof, Aletta du Pon, Tina Bislick, Ron Hubjers.

CONTRIBUTORS:

Barney's Restaurant, Taste of Belgium, Linda's Pancakes, 080 Cafe, Arubaville, Twist of Flavors, Madame Janette, Hollywood Smokehouse, Diana's Pancake Place, Casa del Mar, Tropicana Resorts, One Happy Photographer, Terrazza Italiana, George's Cycles, Ha'bon Soaps, Soaporo, Aruba Wine & Dine, Refresqueria Ramada Columbiana,


De Arend, Lorraine Evans, Artist, Aruba Aloe Company, Melina Deep Sea Fishing, Caribbean Speed Printers, Double Down Casino, AWE Mainta, Tierra del Sol Golf and Pro Shop, Professional Pest Control, U Shell and Wood Sea. 



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Getting Legally Married in Aruba

As of January 2002, civil marriages are possible in Aruba. The following is some updated information that includes the necessary requirements to be legally married in Aruba.

Civil Ceremony Requirements:

- Couple must obtain a document from the bureau of vital statistics or civil registry from their home state as proof that by their records they are both presently unmarried and are therefore free to be married to each other.
- Each person must submit copies of their birth certificate with a raised seal. The local civil authorities will keep these copies.
- The two above items must be taken to the office of the secretary of state of the couple's home state for an apostille seal that verifies the signatures on these documents.
- If either party has been divorced, they must submit a copy of their decree nisi.
- If either party has been widowed, they must submit a copy of the death certificate.
- Couple must be holders of valid passports and submit copies of the passport pages showing all relevant details.
- Copies of the passport pages of their witnesses must also be submitted.
- All documents must be submitted by courier (i.e. FedEx) at least one month prior to desired wedding date to the Office of Civil Registry (see below).

All civil ceremonies take place at the Bureau Burgerlijke Stand (Civil Town House) in Oranjestad. Ceremonies are performed Monday through Saturday, 10am - 11:30am and 2pm - 4:30pm. For more information, please contact the Office of Civil Registry. Schoolstraat 2. Oranjestad, Aruba. Phone +297 583 4400. Fax +297 583 9160
Email: pivaruba@setarnet.aw



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Tel: 584 5794

Botica Central
Santa Cruz
Tel: 585 1965

Botica Oduber
Mainstreet, Oranjestad
Tel: 582 1780

Botica Trupiaal
Ponton
Tel: 583 8560

BEACH *brides*


ONE HAPPY ISLAND | ARUBA

Aruba's online resource for destination brides

The Aruba Tourism Authority is launching a blog (via aruba.com) that will showcase Aruba's destination-wedding scene. The Beach Brides blog will be a dynamic tool to reach couples during the planning stages, providing both inspiration and practical, relevant content to help them plan their perfect nuptial experience on Aruba.

The blog will be an online resource to assist couples that have chosen Aruba with ideas and details to help tailor their wedding with unique aspects of the island—from incorporating local traditions to choosing that special venue. Local vendors, including wedding planners, florists, photographers, caterers, and hair/makeup professionals, will also be featured on Beach Brides.

To keep the blog dynamic and fresh, Beach Brides will be updated weekly with featured weddings, advice from our local professionals for the big day, personal stories of other couples' wedding journeys on Aruba, and the latest bridal trends for island destination weddings.

For more information or to inquire about being a part of the Beach Brides blog, contact the Aruba Tourism Authority. 





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Divi Aruba All-Inclusive unveils new pool-view building and Mexican eatery




Divi Aruba recently welcomed some new additions to its resort property. Guests can now stay in the new pool-view building and enjoy authentic Mexican cuisine at Pure Lime.

Divi Aruba's first pool-view category building offers 60 luxury rooms and two swimming pools. Each guest room has a patio or balcony facing the pools and amenities that include a built-in fridge, a floating desk with pop-up electrical outlets and USB ports, and a bathroom with a walk-in shower and double sinks. The entire structure was constructed as a "green" building in accordance with sustainable practices, featuring solar heaters, sun-reflecting sliding doors, and LED lighting.





Pure Lime marks the tenth dining option for the Divi and Tamarijn Aruba sister properties. The kitchen is led by Executive Chef Lyssette Van Der Biezen, who was born and raised in Mexico, grew up with its traditional cuisine, and later studied international gastronomy. The restaurant features an open kitchen and a menu showcasing a variety of savory Mexican dishes and signature drinks. The restaurant's vibrant décor is inspired by modern Mexican art with bright colors accented with lime green, chalkboard-painted booths, and high tables. 



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Contact Information:
 Nicole Muxi, VP Sales and Marketing
 Email: sales@azure-aruba.com
www.azure-aruba.com
 Phone: +297-5926825



Azure Beach Residences, now under construction on Eagle Beach, will consist of 106 spacious whole-ownership condominium units and 9 superb villas, housed in two residential towers. The two- to five-bedroom units will be decorated in contemporary style and will feature elevated ceilings, roomy terraces, upscale appliances and electronics, wireless Internet, and stunning, unobstructed views of Eagle Beach and the Caribbean Sea.


Planned on-site amenities include a private beach protected by a jetty, two swimming pools, a fitness center, a tennis court, a residents-only club room, a landscaped sundeck, and expansive green lawns. Services include poolside and beach butler service, concierge services, pre-arrival grocery stocking, and daily maid service.

According to project manager Alberto Perret-Gentil, "Our vision is to create a high-quality product with all the modern conveniences and services of a full-service resort. When designing the master plan, we took into account the buyer's interest in getting a good return on investment, striking the right balance between having great amenities and keeping homeowners' association fees low."

The property is located steps away from Aruba's two most popular beaches/tourist areas, Eagle Beach and Palm Beach. Golf privileges can be enjoyed at two nearby courses, including Tierra del Sol, designed by Robert Trent Jones, Jr. Just four miles from Azure Beach Residences, the capital of Oranjestad serves as a cosmopolitan tourist destination.

Enjoy the beautiful beaches and turquoise waters of Aruba—and make some money while you do!

People are increasingly buying vacation property as an alternative investment to the stock exchange and bond market, particularly since the 2007 financial crisis and the dismal results of 2015. The vacation rental industry is a 100-plus billion dollar market growing quickly worldwide with the support of Airbnb, VRBO, HomeAway, TripAdvisor, and other vacation companies. During the past two years, 22% of leisure travelers have stayed in a vacation rental as an alternative to a traditional hotel or resort, and 24% have stayed in a condominium resort. These travelers are looking for a different experience, away from the crowds in a more homey and tranquil environment.

Why not consider buying a vacation property in Aruba to reap the benefits of its rental income while enjoying this beautiful island at the same time? With 65 years in the development business, the Pering Group is now offering you this unique opportunity with the latest addition to its exclusive portfolio of luxury condominium developments in Aruba—Azure Beach Residences. This upscale condominium complex will enjoy a privileged location in one of the few beachfront properties left on the island. 

ISLAND-HOPPING



Decompressing at the Divi

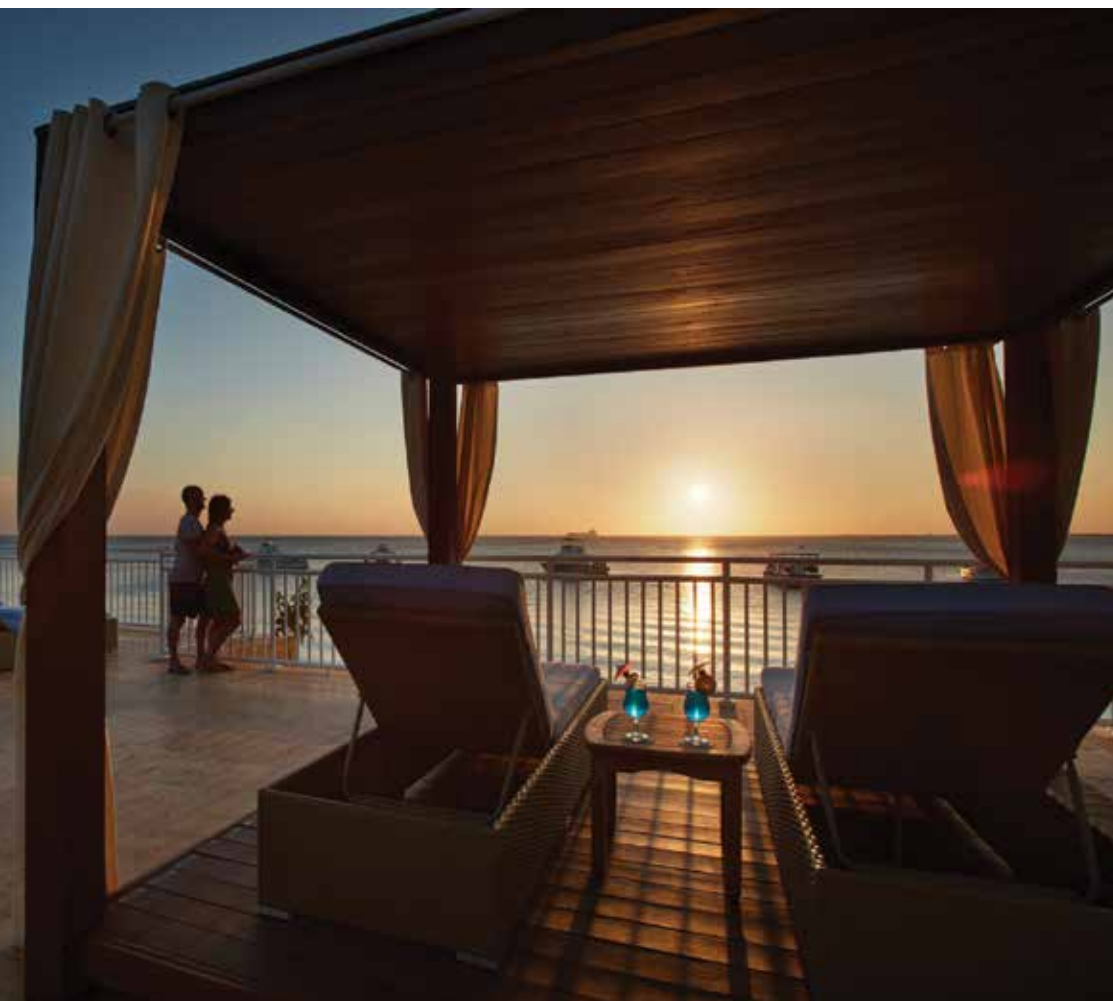
Text by Tina Causey-Bislick
Photography by Steve Keith

I live on Aruba...yep, I'm a lucky gal! But living on an island is not tantamount to vacationing on an island. "Living" entails working, attending to a house, garden, and dogs, paying bills, grocery shopping, meeting deadlines... yes, it's the daily grind, island style. When I need a quick escape, it's not like I can jump in my car and head to some remote cabin or quaint B&B out in the country for the weekend; my quick escape to decompress from the daily grind is to island-hop over to Bonaire, a sister island of Aruba. A direct flight—from wheels up to wheels down—puts me there in less than 45 minutes, 20 minutes gets me through customs and to my luggage, and 20 minutes later I am checked into my hotel and relaxing by the sea...that's less than two hours to take me from the dregs of nine-to-five to vacation bliss!

Now when I say "decompress," I mean it, literally. Bonaire is my Zen place. As soon as I step off the plane and down the ladder (this is an old-school Caribbean airport and I love it), and the moment my feet touch the tarmac, I can feel all the stress that has turned my insides into a pressure cooker release with an involuntary (and audible) sigh escaping my lungs...Bonaire, I love you, baby; you never disappoint me!

This great escape happens once or twice a year for me, and my go-to resort has always been the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort & Casino. There are no major brand hotel chains here—and that's a good thing. Divi has managed to skirt that line between homegrown, authentic character and the reliability and accountability that come with staying

A 3,300+ sq. ft. sun deck/cabana lounge was constructed. The deck, named puresundeck, is elevated and secluded, offering loungers unobstructed views of sunsets over the Caribbean plus a close-up on sea life in the Calabas Reef below.






A 4,700+ sq. ft. beach area with canopied daybeds and chaise lounges was constructed in front of the resort by converting an existing grass lawn into a beach. Tons of white sand was used to create the beach atop a raised platform with steps leading into the blue Caribbean waters.



with a “company” hotel. Divi Resorts, based out of North Carolina, has a portfolio of eight exclusive resorts throughout the Caribbean, with the Bonaire property opening more than 50 years ago.

Bonaire is best known as the scuba diving capital of the Caribbean, and many resorts on the island are anchored by dive operations. The Divi Flamingo is no exception, and has a rightful place as a pioneer of dive-based vacations in the Caribbean. The exception is in Divi’s approach to accommodations, most notably in its recently completed multimillion-dollar renovation. Bonaire has consistently relied on dive vacationers as the foundation of tourism, but the island’s vacation value goes far beyond that. In today’s ever-changing world, even small island nations have been impacted with unprecedented commercialization (some see that as a good thing, others not so much). But Bonaire has been able to maintain that quiet, laid-back vibe of the Caribbean’s yesteryear (there is nary a stoplight to be found). That is something rare these days, and with many modern vacationers seeking authentic experiences, Bonaire is an extraordinary commodity in the Caribbean. Realizing this, Divi Resorts invested in the Bonaire property by designing enhancements to elevate the beachside resort experience.

“Beachside” is a misnomer for the most part in Bonaire. Due to the island’s geography, wide expanses of beaches as we know them in Aruba just do not exist in Bonaire (but trust me, the stunning clarity of the sea and the island’s dazzling coastline make up for the lack of beaches). The Divi Flamingo, however, brings the beach to guests with the recent addition of a 4,700+ sq. ft. beach area with canopied daybeds and chaise lounges. In addition, a 3,300+ sq. ft. sundeck/cabana lounge was constructed. The deck, named “puresundeck,” is elevated and secluded, offering loungers unobstructed views of sunsets over the Caribbean and a close-up of sea life swimming around the Calabas Reef below. The resort’s freshwater pool area underwent a complete update as well, with travertine decking, daybeds, lounge chairs, and chic cabanas.

But perhaps my favorite element of the Divi Flamingo will always be the resort’s terraces—they are the next best thing to actually having a room over the sea. The terraces are just above the surf, and the views are incomparable. To me, this is Bonaire. When I am feeling stressed or overwhelmed, I take a moment to envision myself sitting on the terrace, feet propped up on the balcony...can you hear that? That’s the sound of decompression. 





The food and beverage program received an overhaul with new menus, fresh paint, and upgraded decor at Chibi Chibi, its beachside lunch and dinner restaurant, along with the addition of pureocean, the resort's brand new pavilion-style oceanfront restaurant.



Renovations to Divi Dive, the PADI Five Star Dive Center, are on par with Bonaire's stature as one of the top three dive sites in the world. Improvements included a completely upgraded Divi Dive retail shop as well as modern improvements to the dive classrooms and lockers. It also expanded its fleet of dive boats with the acquisition of a 36' Newton dive boat, named pureocean.





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Menu *temptations*

RESTAURANT GUIDE

On the following pages, a selection
of our favorite restaurants & menus

Menu Temptations

MEXICADO



Mexicado is an intimate, friendly dining experience environment featuring a selection of regional dishes showcasing Mexico's most inspiring flavors. The truly authentic restaurant offers an array of elevated market food items, an extensive tequila selection and a list of handcrafted tequila cocktails. Outdoor lounge, tequila bar and restaurant seating available.

Main Attractions

TACOS

Dorado taco, seared white catch fish, ice berg, chipotle mayonnaise, guacamole, corn tortillas.....	\$15.00
Taco de carnitas, slow braised pork, cilantro, onion, guacamole, corn tortillas.....	\$14.00

CHEVICHES

Colima ceviche, grouper with lemon juice, red onion, tomatoes, cilantro, serrano chili.....	\$16.00
Tuna coriander ceviche, passion fruit, white onion, cilantro, fresh apple.....	\$16.00

QUESADILLAS, served with Tomatillo sauce

Chicken, Mexican cheeses, oaxaca, panella, quesadilla, cheese.....	\$15.00
Shrimp, cabbage, chipotle mayo, avocado, Mexican cheeses.....	\$16.00

BURRITOS, consisting of a wheat flour tortilla, wrapped or folded into a cylindrical shape to completely enclose the filling. All served with rice, charro beans, Mexican cheese, topped with queso fundido, lettuce, queso fresco, pico de gallo.

Beef, Chicken, Broken shrimp Acapulco, vegetarian, mixed chicken and beef.....	\$26.00 - \$35.00
--	-------------------

FAJITAS

All served with chile poblano, cilantro, onion, peppers, pico de gallo, flour tortilla, guacamole
Chicken, beef top round, shrimp, mix chicken and beef, season vegetables.....

CAZUELAS, served with rice, charro beans and flour tortillas

Mariscos, half lobster, shrimp, scallops, clams, grouper with chipotle, tomato sauce, sweet peppers, onions, cilantro.....	\$49.00
--	---------

ANTOJITOS

Empanadas de Carnitas, corn pastries filled, marinated beef, salsa roja, sour cream.....	\$13.00
Chicken tortilla soup, shredded chicken, corn tortilla, avocado, onion, tomatoes, chipotle, chili, oregano, cilantro.....	\$10.00

AUTÉNTICOS

Chicken mango mole poblano, roasted chicken, supreme with mango, mole sauce, roasted sesame seeds, Mexican rice and sauté baby corn.....	\$29.00
--	---------

and much more...

Prices are in US\$, excluding 15% service charge as well as sales/health tax.

Dining Information

HOURS

Dinner daily except Mondays, 6pm-10:30pm

RESERVATIONS

Please call the Hyatt Regency +297-586-1234 Ext 36
or email adventure.concierge@hyatt.com
www.aruba.hyatt.com

Inquire about your gift!



FOOTPRINTS BEACH GRILL



Celebrate another perfect day in paradise with an unforgettable dinner at Footprints. This exclusive restaurant-only a limited number tables are available each evening-offers fine dining while you wiggle your toes in the soft white sand. Enjoy the sounds of the sea as the attentive staff serves a delicious 4-course dinner, featuring their renowned grilled entrees with your choice of beef, fish, fresh seafood and more. Finish a delightful evening with a tempting dessert and your favorite cocktail or wine from the hotel's extensive selection.

Start your meal off with...

First Steps

CORN CRAB CHOWDER Italian bread bowl, filled with a richly creamed corn soup, and wild caught crab.....	\$16.00
---	---------

CLASSIC MUSSELS & HERBS

Simmered in dry white wine, shallots, garlic, sea salt, butter, herbs, served with garlic bread.....	\$14.00
--	---------

CHORIZO AND CASSAVA

Pork sausage, fried cassava, served with chipotle mayonnaise and spicy tomato cilantro sauce.....	\$13.00
---	---------

Entrees

GRILLED MAHI MAHI FILLET Stir-fried vegetables, with rice pasta, in teriyaki sauce.....	\$38.00
---	---------

GRILLED T-BONE STEAK (16 OZ.) Roasted garlic mashed potato, sautéed mushroom and onion, with green peppercorn sauce.....	\$52.00
--	---------

ORGANIC CHICKEN STUFFED WITH GUAVA AND WHITE PAISA CHEESE Served with sautéed red bliss potato, onion, broccoli, and creamy mint sauce.....	\$35.00
---	---------

ROASTED LOBSTER (9 OZ) Classic buttery mashed potato, creamed spinach, served with lemon infused drawn butter.....	\$51.00
--	---------

SAUTÉED GARLIC SHRIMP Chili pepper flakes, fresh herbs, with white rice, stuffed tomato, and creamycaperbuttersauce.....	\$43.00
--	---------

Desserts

PASSION FRUIT MOUSSE	\$9.00
ARUBAN COCONUT CREAM CAKE	\$10.00
TRES LECHES	\$12.00

and much more...

Prices are in US\$, excluding 15% service charge as well as sales/health tax.

Dining Information

HOURS

6:30pm – 9:00pm. Open daily except for Tuesday

RESERVATIONS

Please reserve at 011.297.586 – 1234 ext. 37
or email adventure.concierge@hyatt.com
www.aruba.hyatt.com

Inquire about your gift!



PALMS RESTAURANT

Palms



Feel the warmth at our premier beach front location. Palms offers both the sights and tastes of the Caribbean. Drawing upon local cuisine and regional ingredients, the menu allows guests to linger long into the night over a variety of delicious dishes. Indoor and outdoor seating, as well as adjacent lounge for before and after cocktails.

Start your meal off with...

PALMS HOUSE SALAD

Creole potato, mixed greens, cherry tomatoes, Kalamata olive, tossed with ranch dressing
Add grilled chicken \$18.00, salmon \$20.00, shrimp \$21.00..... \$12.00

ORIGINAL COBB SALAD

Grilled chicken, smoked bacon, egg, avocado, blue cheese and tomatoes, lemon-Dijon dressing Platter with three shrimps, crab claws, green mussels, cocktail and calypso sauces..... \$18.00

TRIO SEAFOOD

Platter with three shrimp, crab claws, green mussels, cocktail and calypso sauces..... \$20.00

PORK SLIDERS

Dinner bread rolls, red cabbage, slow roasted pulled pork, with apple papaya chutney..... \$16.00

GOURMET BURGERS

MEYER NATURAL GRASS-FED ANGUS BURGER

Premium beef, cheddar cheese, tomato, crisp lettuce, red onion, cilantro mayo with French fries..... \$16.00

PALMS LOBSTER AND SHRIMP BURGER

Palms coleslaw, cilantro, chipotle mayo, served with seasoned wedge fries..... \$20.00

Main Attractions

LOCAL ARUBA TEMPTATIONS

Fried funchi, aruban chicken saté, pastechi of the day, bacalao, carni stoba or bbq chicken basket

LOBSTER ALFREDO

Half cut broiled lobster (5-oz), with Alfredo sauce, roasted garlic mashed potato au gratin and fresh broccoli..... \$44.00

MEDALLIONS OF BEEF TENDERLOIN

Two 4-oz grilled medallions, baked potato served with butter and sour cream, sautéed vegetables, and shallot demi-glace sauce..... \$42.00

and much more...

Prices are in US\$, excluding 15% service charge as well as sales/health tax.

Dining Information

HOURS: Open for lunch daily, 11:30 – 5:30 p.m.
Open for Sunday breakfast, 7:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Open for dinner daily except Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Late night menu 11:00 p.m. – 12 midnight

RESERVATIONS

Please call the Hyatt Regency +297-586-1234 Ext 37
www.aruba.hyatt.com Inquire about your gift!



RUINAS DEL MAR

RUINAS ^{del} MAR

Ruins by the Sea, is Hyatt Regency Aruba's signature restaurant offering contemporary cuisine in an open air environment. Guests are invited to enjoy menu items such as fresh seafood and steaks, hearth oven specialties, and a display of multiple food stations offering breakfast, Sunday Brunch, and special events. The design of Ruinas del Mar pays homage to several original Aruban architectural elements including caliche stone and the use of water in design

Start your meal off with...

DUO LOBSTER CRAB CAKE

Served with remoulade sauce..... \$16.00

SCALLOPS "A LA PLANCHA"

Fresh ginger, coriander, papaya, coconut milk, chili, cilantro, red onions and lime..... \$16.00

BAKED BRIE

Local honey, cranberry compote, candy pecan, whole grain crackers \$14.00

LOCAL PUMPKIN SOUP

Fresh cilantro, coconut milk and pumpkin seeds..... \$9.00

PEARS, CAPICOLA & PARMESAN

Wine pears, asparagus, artichoke and copa ham..... \$16.00

Main Attractions

CIGAR BOX CEDAR SALMON FILET

Shrimp and spinach risotto, roasted garlic oil..... \$38.00

SEARED GROUPE FILET

Roasted almonds, beans, broccoli, carrots, fennel salad, tomato confit and potatoes..... \$36.00

CLASSIC DUO

Grilled filet, cabernet sauce with Fresh caribbean lobster tail & garlic broccoli, dushi mashed potatoes and Café de Paris butter \$52.00

KANSAS RIB EYE STEAK

Fresh mushroom, seasoned vegetables, mashed potatoes and demi-glace..... \$45.00

GRILLED BEEF TENDERLOIN FILET

Red bliss potato, holland potato, papa creole and harvest mushroom with peppercorn sauce..... \$42.00

SEAFOOD LINGUINI

Shrimp, scallops, mussels, clams, fresh parsley, basil in original alfredo or marinara sauce, lobster 6-0z..... \$48.00

ROASTED LAMB CHOP

Pumpkin and goat cheese risotto, asparagus, drizzle of amaretto served with mint sauce..... \$40.00

and much more...

Prices are in us\$, excluding 15% service charge as well as sales/health tax. Kids menu available

Dining Information

HOURS

Open for breakfast daily except Sundays, 7:00 – 12noon.
Open for dinner daily except Sunday, 6:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

RESERVATIONS

Please call the Hyatt Regency +297-586-1234 Ext 36
or email adventure.concierge@hyatt.com
www.aruba.hyatt.com Inquire about your gift!



Menu Temptations

IKE'S BISTRO



Enjoy a modern twist on Mediterranean cuisine, Caribbean style, with Aruba's most talented, young chef Ever De Pena, paying homage to the late resort founder, award winning hotelier Ike Cohen. With seating on the garden terrace or around the tropical pool, the restaurant overlooks the beach and the Caribbean ocean. Ike's Bistro experience is enchanting and all menu items are extremely enticing. Undecided guests may opt for the tasting menu of 4 or 5 smaller portions of the chef's seasonal specialties.

Start your meal off with...

CAPRESE AND PESTO

Buffalo mozzarella, cherry tomato, sweet tomato basil relish and home-made pesto espuma

OCTOPUS A LA GRIGLIA

Grilled Octopus from Italy, red quinoa, orange wedge, cherry tomatoes, fresh herbs and squid-ink aioli

GREEN GAZPACHO

Cucumber & honeydew melon gazpacho, basil, organic sea salt, olive oil and herb croutons

SCALLOPS AND COCONUT FOAM

Pan-fried herb crusted scallops, avocado puree, red pepper cilantro salsa and coconut foam

Main Attractions

SHRIMP A LA BRAVA

Slightly spicy shrimp, boiled potatoes, fresh basil, creamy spicy sauce, grilled pita bread

SEA BASS

Pan-seared Chilean sea bass with sautéed spinach, quinoa, cauliflower and coconut saffron sauce

LAMB

Crusted lamb chops, couscous, mint, green beans, corn and creamy pesto sauce

LAND & SEA

Grilled filet of beef & sautéed shrimp with garlic mashed potato, creamy spinach and lobster sauce

Desserts

ORANGE CATALANA

Vanilla custard flavored with orange zest topped with a thinly crisp caramel layer

PASSION FRUIT PARFAIT AND BERRIES

Passion fruit parfait, wild berries, lime sauce and coconut ice cream

and much more...

All prices are in U.S. Dollars. A 15% service charge will be added to your check.

Dining Information

HOURS

Dinner: 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

RESERVATIONS

Tel: +297 582-3444 ext. 203

Email: ikesbistro@manchebo.com

www.manchebo.com



TEXAS DE BRAZIL



Texas de Brazil is an authentic Brazilian-American style steakhouse, the ultimate in continuous dining concepts. Diners are tempted by an extravagant 40-item seasonal salad area



of roasted vegetables, imported cheeses and home-made soups. Hailed for its "flawless meats" by the Dallas Morning News, carvers will then swarm your table with choice cuts of sizzling beef, pork, lamb, sausage and chicken; all flamegrilled to perfection and served tableside on large sword-like skewers. Signature Brazilian cocktails, rare wines, exquisite desserts, and hand-rolled Cuban cigars make for the most incredible dining experience that is uniquely Texas de Brazil.

Start your meal off with...

SALAD BAR

The exceptional salad bar consists of the freshest salads, home-made dressings, buffalo mozzarella, zucchini, potato salad, crab salad, daily cold pasta, black beans with pork, baby corn, cucumbers, portabella mushrooms, sweet bell peppers, green beans, broccoli, olives, hearts of palm, sushi, ceviche, salami, tomatoes, smoked bacon, brown rice, imported cheeses, daily house soups and more.

Main Attractions

MEATS

Filet mignon, filet mignon wrapped in bacon, top sirloin, leg of lamb, Brazilian sausage, Parmesan pork, chicken breast wrapped in bacon, Brazilian picanha, garlic picanha (our house specialty), flank steak, crispy chicken drum sticks, pork loin, pork ribs and beef ribs.

SIDE ITEMS

Garlic mashed potatoes, fried sweet bananas, Brazilian cheese bread and house specialty meat sauces.

Desserts

Selection of desserts ranging from delicious cakes to papaya cream, our house specialty!

and much more...

All prices are in U.S. dollars. 15% service charge plus 1.5 % local tax will be added to each check. Prices and menu items are subject to change without notice.

Dining Information

HOURS

Dinner from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. nightly Monday to Saturday
Sunday 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

RESERVATIONS

Juan E. Irausquin Blvd. 382. Palm Beach

Telephone: +297-586-4686

www.texasdebrazil.com



Menu Temptations

THE HOLLYWOOD SMOKEHOUSE



The Hollywood Smokehouse is Aruba's only authentic smokehouse. Family owned and operated, this upscale barbecue joint combines southern cuisine with warm, island hospitality. Meats are smoked low and slow over hickory and applewood, and served with home-made sauces and side dishes from family recipes. The signature blackberry bourbon lemonade is one of many original crafted cocktails to enjoy with the award-winning barbecue.

Sandwiches

PULLED PORK (6 OZ. AND 8OZ.).....	\$10/\$12
BEEF BRISKET (6 OZ. AND 8 OZ.).....	\$12/\$14
½ POUND SMOKED TENDERLOIN BURGER.....	\$12
½ POUND SMOKED BONELESS BREAST.....	\$12

Platters (served with 2 sides)

PULLED PORK (8 OZ.).....	\$15
BEEF BRISKET (8 OZ.).....	\$18
SMOKED GROUPER.....	\$18
SMOKED BONELESS DOUBLE CHICKEN BREAST.....	\$18
BABY BACK RIBS (4, 8 AND 12 BONES).....	\$16/\$25/\$32
CRISPY CHICKEN BREAST TENDERS (5 PCS.).....	\$14

Taco Wraps (award winning!)

KOREAN PORK W/ ASIAN SLAW.....	\$12
SMOKED GROUPER W/ BLACK BEANS, SAUTÉED ONIONS, CILANTRO GARLIC SAUCE.....	\$17
BRISKET W/ BLACK BEANS, SAUTÉED ONIONS, CUMIN RANCH SAUCE.....	\$14

Lettuce Wraps

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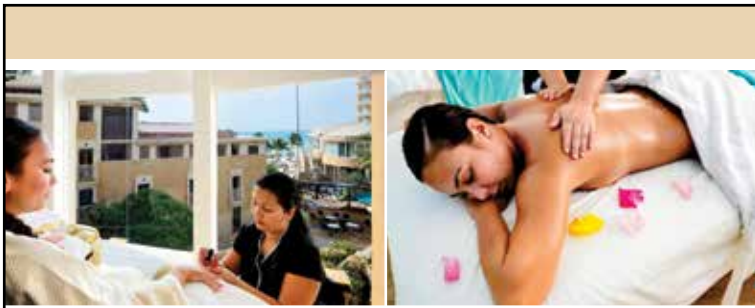
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